

March 1, 2021

Clerk, United States District Court
Western District of Virginia
255 West Main Street, Room 304
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

CLERK'S OFFICE U.S. DIST. COURT
AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA
FILED

MAR 03 2021

JULIA C. DUDLEY, CLERK
BY: 
DEPUTY CLERK

re: 3:18-cv-00017-NKM-JCH Gilmore v. Jones et al

To Whom it May and All Who Are Concerned,

I am a defendant in the above-referenced case. As the court is aware my current legal representation, Mr. Aaron Walker, has recently filed a Motion to Withdraw (though I am unaware whether the court has granted the motion yet.) Due to his on-going medical ailments, communications with Mr. Walker during this critical transitional period have been sparse and while unrepresented, as I am at the moment, knowing just how to respond to and handle court orders and requests is simply outside my purview and level of legal competence.

I have concerns centering on this week's "Plaintiff's Second Set of Requests For Production of Documents" and "Second Set of Interrogatories" for which the court set a deadline of March fourth.

I am in the process of interviewing and evaluating new representation and have narrowed my search down to two Virginia-based law firms. This is a critical decision (and financial expense) and I am trying to be thorough and not make decisions in haste while recognizing the court's need to move proceedings along. I expect to have new counsel retained by the end of this week however that leaves the court's deadline in the gulf between my former counsel's official withdraw and new counsel being admitted, having adequate time to familiarize themselves with particulars of the case and provide thoughtful responses to the requests and interrogatories.

With this information in mind I'd like to respectfully ask the court for a continuance specifically as it relates to the items scheduled to be produced this week, with apologies for any inconvenience or disruption in proceedings this additional delay may cause. I was not made aware of the requests and interrogatories until days before last month's telephonic hearing and so have the compounded issues of ignorance and lack of legal representation. Both should be addressed and resolved shortly meaning that, moving forward, the court's calendar may be more closely adhered to.

Respectfully,



Derrick Wilburn

